Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of programmatically determining ~~edgification of~~ whether application program components are suited for deployment at an edge of [[in]] a computing network, comprising steps of:

retrieving values for one or more characteristics of each of one or more executable application program components to be potentially ~~edgified~~ deployed at the edge, each of the characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this application program component;

retrieving values for one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the deployment at the edge ~~edgification~~ is to potentially occur, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the operating environment and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

retrieving a policy which expresses how dependent ~~associations between~~ the characteristics of the application program components [[and]] are on the characteristics of the operating environment; and

programmatically combining the values of the characteristics of a particular one of the application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment to yield a result which determines whether the particular application program component is ~~edgeable~~ suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of

comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program component is ~~edgeable~~ suited for deployment at the edge.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of the one or more application program components are supplied by developers of the components.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of the operating environment are supplied by an administrator of the environment.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the policy is supplied by a deployer.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of programmatically combining uses ~~techniques of~~ matrix multiplication.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the values of the characteristics of the one or more application program components, values of the policy, and values of the characteristics of the operating environment range between zero and one.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of programmatically combining uses modifications to techniques of matrix multiplication, wherein particular intermediate results signal changes to the matrix multiplication process.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A system for programmatically determining ~~edgification of~~ whether application program components are suited for deployment at an edge of [[in]] a computing network, comprising:

means for retrieving values for one or more characteristics of each of one or more executable application program components to be potentially ~~edgified~~ deployed at the edge, each of the characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this application program component;

means for retrieving values for one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the ~~edgification~~ deployment at the edge is to potentially occur, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the operating environment and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

means for retrieving a policy which expresses ~~associations between~~ how dependent the characteristics of the application program components [[and]] are on the characteristics of the operating environment;

means for programmatically combining the values of the characteristics of a particular one of the application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment to yield a result; and

means for comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program component is ~~edgeable~~ suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A computer program product for programmatically determining whether application program ~~edgification of~~ components are suited for deployment at an edge of [[in]] a computing network, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

computer-readable program code means for retrieving values for one or more characteristics of one or more executable application program components to be potentially ~~edgified~~ deployed at the edge, each of the characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this application program component;

computer-readable program code means for retrieving values for one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the ~~edgification~~ deployment at the edge is to potentially occur, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the operating environment and each of the characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

computer-readable program code means for retrieving a policy which expresses how dependent ~~associations between~~ the characteristics of the application program components [[and]] are on the characteristics of the operating environment;

computer-readable program code means for programmatically combining the values of the characteristics of a particular one of the application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment to yield a result; and

computer-readable program code means for comparing the result to a threshold to

determine whether the particular application program component is ~~edgeable~~ suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claim 11 (new): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the values of the characteristics of the application program components and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment are specified in vectors, the policy is specified as a matrix, and the programmatically combining step further comprises multiplying the matrix by each of the vectors and summing the products to yield the result.

Claim 12 (new): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the policy comprises a matrix of cells, each cell specifying a value that indicates how dependent one of the application program components is on one of the characteristics of the operating environment.

Claim 13 (new): The method according to Claim 13, wherein the cells are used, during the programmatically combining step, as weighting factors for yielding the result.

Claim 14 (new): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the characteristics of the application program components is whether the application program components need a secure operating environment and one of the characteristics of the operating environment is whether the operating environment is secure.